

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Crown Copyright documents reproduced by courtesy of The National Archives, London, England.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Archives give no warranty as to the accuracy, completeness or fitness for the purpose of the information provided.

Images may be used only for purposes of research, private study or education. Applications for any other use should be made to The National Archives Image Library, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU.

EASTERN

F.O.
371

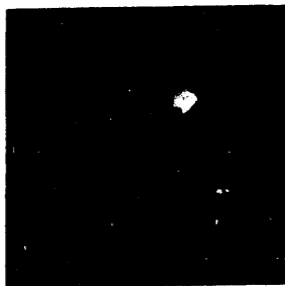
1948



PALESTINE

FILE No. 8

pp. K 550



68612

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference: -					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

<p>1548</p>	<p>Palestine EASTERN</p>	<p>E30 /G 5</p>
<p>E30 18/31/47 Cabinet Office COS(47)160th HQ Minute 4 Dated 19 Dec.</p>	<p><u>Palestine: Plan for withdrawal</u></p>	
<p>Last Paper E12168/46/9-1947</p>	<p>(Minutes)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7.13. 3'</p>	
<p>References E11898/46/9 - 1947</p>		
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p>		
<p>(Action completed) 25-7</p>	<p>(Index) 24/8</p>	
<p>Next Paper E89</p>		<p>34092</p>

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

B.O.S. (160th Mtg) E

19 Dec 1947.

Enter
6

4.

PALESTINE - PLAN FOR WITHDRAWAL

(Previous Reference: D.O. (47) 26th Meeting, Minute 1.
Confidential Annex)

THE COMMITTEE had before them a Secretary's minute ^{E 30} covering a draft telegram to the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East asking for their views on the possibility of evacuating Tel Aviv some weeks before 15th May, and informing them of the agreement of the Defence Committee regarding the admittance of Jewish immigrants into Palestine.

MAJOR GENERAL LARD said there seemed to be some misapprehension about the course of action that was to be taken in Stage I of the evacuation from Palestine. Under the present plan the army would be evacuating the ~~Jaffa~~ ^{Jaffa} area during Stage I and it was understood that the civil administration of this area would not cease until the date on which the Mandate was surrendered. There would be no difficulty, from the military point of view, in a military evacuation of Tel Aviv and, in fact, Jewish and Arab police were at present taking over duties in the areas of Tel Aviv and ~~Cas~~ ^{Jaffa}. In the event of Tel Aviv being handed over to the Jews before the surrender of the Mandate, the High Commissioner in Palestine foresaw that this would give an opportunity to the Jews to import arms and ammunition and thereby, tend to increase the hostility of the Arabs. Such a proposal would involve a departure from the evacuation as planned, whereby civil administration of Palestine would be withdrawn on the surrender of the Mandate and not from particular areas prior to that date.

+ COS. 1500/15/12/7

1) Secy. *[Signature]* 29. XII.
2) Secy. Dept.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

He thought, therefore, that the proposal, of which the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East were fully aware, need not be referred to them, as the military aspects of it could be fully represented by the War Office. He suggested, therefore, that paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft telegram to the Commanders-in-Chief should be deleted and that the War Office should prepare a draft report to the Defence Committee for the consideration of the Chiefs of Staff on the military aspects of the proposal to evacuate Tel Aviv some weeks before 15th May.

SIR JOHN EDELSTEN said that if Tel Aviv was handed over to the Jews it would still be possible to maintain a blockade at sea, but he doubted if this could, in fact, prevent the import of arms and ammunition by the Jews. Provided that the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East were fully aware of the proposal, he would agree that the military aspects of it, which were largely an army matter, should be examined by the War Office.

THE COMMITTEE:-

- (a) Approved the draft telegram to the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East as amended, and instructed the Secretary to despatch it.
- (b) Took note that the War Office would prepare a draft report to the Defence Committee examining the military implications of the proposal to evacuate the port of Tel Aviv prior to the surrender of the Mandate on 15th May.

+ Sent as C.O.S.(ME) 188

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

1948

PALESTINE

E 39

1 JAN

Registry Number

E39/8/31

FROM

40 minutes

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

1 Jan.

Weekend, special meet of officers.
transmits minutes of meeting held 24 Dec
concerning the future of British Representation
in Palestine, and the appointment of officers
to take up duty on expiry of mandate.
to proceed with the withdrawal
of forces proposed to be in Palestine.

Last Paper.

30

(Minutes.)

References.

X.S. 14/31 (2/47)

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Please advise E.H. & S.
Mr. Lewis Jones thinks it would be
useful for the State Department to know, as a
guide for their own action, what we propose
to do about representation in Palestine after
the termination of the mandate. Is there
any objection to giving him the substance
of the proposals within?

H. Bealey 2/11

I see no objection.

L. P. L. Pygman
2/11

~~HABIB~~

3.1

Please tell him in confidence.

~~HABIB~~

7.1

19

(Action completed.)

9.8.19/11

(Index)

24/1/48

Next Paper.

E 89

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

9 informs Mr. Lewis Jones in
confidence 15-day.

H.B. 131
15

PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

FO 371/68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORDS OFFICE, LONDON

- 2. It was decided to send a telegram to the High Commissioner in Palestine embodying these proposals and asking for his comments upon them.
- 3. It was pointed out that anyone due to arrive in Palestine by mid-April would have to return to this country for consultations and briefing by mid-March, and therefore that, owing to the difficulty in finding men suitable for this task, as much warning as possible would be needed of any change in the present time-table.
- 4. The Colonial Office was asked to earmark suitable buildings through the High Commissioner as soon as they had received an estimate of the numbers which the Foreign Office expected to have in Palestine.
- 5. The meeting was reminded that a new name would have to be devised for our representative in Jerusalem and it was suggested for future discussion that "Political Representative" might fit the bill.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

x 14/31 (2/47)
Original on XS 14/31 (2/47) *E*
11

Draft

SECRET

Palestine
(General Sir A.
Cunningham)

Your telegram No. 2305 Secret of 2nd December was discussed at a meeting between the Foreign Office and ourselves.

Telegram

From Secretary of
State for the
Colonies

The Foreign Office now suggests that the British staff to be in Palestine as from mid-April and take up duty on the expiry of the mandate in mid-May should consist of the following:-

- (i) A Foreign Service officer of the rank of Minister in Jerusalem (on the assumption that the United Nations Commission will select this spot as their Headquarters) with a junior Foreign Service Officer as his assistant. As he will be called upon by the United Nations Commission for local advice, the Foreign Office would be grateful if one or more experienced officers of the Government of Palestine could be loaned for a period. The Colonial Office Dispersal Staff would also fall under the protection of this Officer.

- (ii) A Foreign Service Officer at Haifa who would:-
 - (a) be Consul General.
 - (b) Act as Political Adviser to the General Officer Commanding, their mutual relationship being determined by a joint directive from London.
 - (c) Give cover to any residual Colonial Office staff in the Haifa area.

I should be glad to have your views on these proposals.

Mr. Gardner/
Mr. Middleton
Mr. Cable

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

<p>1948</p>	<p>Palestine EASTERN</p>	<p>E 89 / G 12 JAN 1948 13</p>
<p>E 89 181/31/G F.O. Minute Mr Beeley dated 1 Jan</p>	<p>Implications of latest developments in Palestine: Possibility of ending Mandate earlier than 15 May</p>	
<p>Last Paper E 30</p>	<p>(Minutes) See within:</p>	
<p>References</p>	<p>1. Letter from Mr Luke, 3 January 2. Minute by Mr Roberts, 5 January</p>	
<p>(Print)</p>	<p>HFB 2/1</p>	
<p>(How disposed of) Mr Luke Cabinet Office from Mr Bullock 2nd Jan.</p>		
<p>(Action completed) JF 14/1</p>	<p>(Index) W.P.</p>	
<p>Next Paper</p>		

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			2
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Mr. Wright. *nr/s*

Mr. Burrows.

I asked the Secretary of State this afternoon whether he had any objection to the Foreign Office representative at the Palestine meeting on Wednesday pressing for the termination of the mandate on February 1st and withdrawal of our troops two and a half months later.

The Secretary of State did not agree to this and thought he would be put in a very foolish position if, after announcing in the House of Commons in December that May 15th was the earliest practicable date, we were now to say that we could get out on February 1st. He would therefore like the Foreign Office representative to find out why the situation has changed to this extent and to know what the cost of advancing our withdrawal in this way would be in terms of stores left behind etc. Our officials could then report to him and he would discuss the matter with his colleagues.

The Secretary of State also mentioned that he thought it undesirable to be rushed into retreats because of troubles which he himself had always anticipated and which had not yet exceeded the limits he had expected.

It should, I think, be made clear that the Secretary of State is not opposed to advancing the date for withdrawal but he wants to know the answers to his questions above and to reflect on the matter further before committing himself.

nr/s
5th January, 1948.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Registry
No. E89/8/9.

to be signed today 2/1/48
TOP SECRET

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

January 1947. *200*
16

Top Secret.

~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

H.B.

Draft.

SEV. eng
Mr. Luke,
Cabinet Office.

From:-

Mr. Burrows.

RECEIVED IN
DIVISION.

2 JAN 1948

SENT TO
TYPE 2.1.48

REPATCHED 2.1.48

In the light of developments during the last few days, we have been giving further consideration to the plan under which the withdrawal from Palestine is at present being carried out.

It now appears that acts of violence committed by Arabs against Jews and by Jews against Arabs/ have created a situation which is beyond the control of the leaders on either side, and which threatens to bring ^{about} ~~out~~ a partial break-down of both the Administration and the economic life of Palestine. If this development leads to an increasing use of troops to support the ^{civil} ~~Assyrian~~ Administration, it must presumably result in slowing down the concentration ^{and} ~~of~~ movement of military ^{stores} ~~sources~~ and so prolong the operation of withdrawal. In other words it seems likely that the Civil Administration, which the Chiefs of Staff originally wished to retain until 15th May in order to facilitate the military withdrawal, may from their point of view soon become a liability rather than an asset. In these circumstances it may be found that the termination of the mandate, involving withdrawal of the Civil Administration, at an earlier date would enable the troops to concentrate to a greater extent on the task of military withdrawal, not only because they would no longer have to protect the Civil authorities but also because the areas from which all British control had been removed might operate as lightning conductors, so that Arab/Jewish conflict would tend to occur in those areas rather than in the parts of the country still under military occupation. In ^{short,} ~~other~~ words,

it/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

it may now be found that our aim of completing the withdrawal of troops by the 1st August may be more easily accomplished if the mandate is terminated at an earlier date.

A second new factor in the situation is the imminent arrival in Cyprus of the "PAN CRESCENT" and the "PAN YORK" carrying an unprecedentedly large cargo of illegal immigrants. These immigrants will occupy almost ^{the}whole of ^{the}remaining accommodation in Cyprus, so that the sailing of even one more similar ship between now and the middle of May would face us with a problem to which

we have not yet succeeded in finding any solution.

Discussion with the UN Commission have not yet
~~another factor which is not new but may have been begun. It, as is likely, we encounter serious difficulties in delaying their arrival until May, this United Nations Commission. This body will be will obviously be another factor to be taken into account.~~
making contact with Sir A. Cadogan in a few days

time, in order to discuss inter alia the date of its arrival in Palestine. The Foreign Office have always doubted whether it would be possible to secure the Commission's agreement to postpone its arrival until the 1st May. If we were ^{compelled}driven to prevent it from arriving earlier, we should be accused of obstructing the will of the General Assembly. If we gave way to the Commission's insistence, its arrival would introduce a new element of chaos into the situation some time before the termination of the mandate under present plans.

For the above reasons we think the time has come for a review of the present policy. If you agree, I would suggest that the Official Committee on Palestine should be convened at an early date to ^{review}examine this policy in relation to the situation now existing in Palestine, and to make any recommendations to Ministers which seem necessary in the light of this ^{review}examination.

D. J. 2

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

5

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 91

20

2 JAN

Registry Number E 91/8/31

TELEGRAM FROM W. Broadmead

No. Dmanusell

Dated 2.

Received in Registry 1 Jan 2 -

Withdrawal from Palestine
Various local newspapers have published account of statement alleged to have been made by HPC, which indicates that events were taking place might delay our withdrawal. Publishers of this statement has given rise locally to doubt as to our intention of holding to the date which has been publicly announced.

Last Paper.

E 89

(Minutes.)

H.B. 129

References.

See within: Palestine tel. no. 38 of 7 Jan.

H.B. 157

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 Watherson. B O
forwarded Pak off
M.I. 89
M.O. 4
Admty
D.M.
Jan. 2

(Actions completed.)

CP
7/1/49

(Index.)

24/1/49

Next Paper.

E 159

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE				
1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	2	2
Reference:-				
FO 371/68612				
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON				

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

E 9 / 8 / 21

INDEXED

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)
9 JAN 1948

D. 7th January, 1948.
R. 7th " " 13.05 hrs.

No. 38 Confidential.

Addressed to Damascus, No. 49.
Repeated to S. of S.
" Beirut, No. 50.

Your telegram No. 2 to the Foreign
Office.

Passage of my statement referred to
said that disturbances would tend to slow up
military (repeat military) withdrawal. No
official suggestion has at any time been made
that they would delay (or hasten) civil (repeat
civil) withdrawal.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. E.A.B. Burrows
" " - Mr. H. Beoley
" " - Mr. J.G.S. Esith

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

3	Palestine	E159 / G 23
	EASTERN	

E159 18 19
31/6
Cabinet Office
COB (47) 161 20/11/19
Min. 3
Dated 22 Dec

Palestine: Plan for
withdrawal

Last Paper
E89

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes)

The S/S has expressed a wish to see progress reports on withdrawal with particular reference to the saving of stores. Eastern Dept. would like to see anything of this kind as soon as it is received

S. L. Dept.

Noted. C.H. 10.11.

H.S. Beir
Jan 8

So thank

(Action completed)

(Index)

2/15/1

W.P.

Next Paper

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

26

(b) Invited General Hollis to seek the views of the Minister of Defence after the completion of the report in (a) above on the suggestion at 'X' above.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E-
Ca
Cos
E-
E-
E-
(A
comp
P

1948
4

Palestine
EASTERN

E160 / G 27

E160 18
Cabinet office
COS (44) 161
Min 10
Dated 22 Dec.

Evacuation from Palestine

Last Paper
E159

(Minutes)

References
E1201 195131

Handwritten
Jan 17

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)
Ru 19

(Index)
W/S

Next Paper

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

6.0.5(47) 161st Mtg

Enter

22 Dec. 1947. 28

E160

10. PALESTINE - EVACUATION

THE COMMITTEE had before them a Secretary's minute⁺ reporting that the Minister of Defence had sought the views of the Chiefs of Staff on a telegram from the Acting Prime Minister of Australia, about the establishment of the United Nations Commission in Palestine.

SIR FRANK SIMPSON said that the issues raised by Dr. Evatt were not new and that they had all been fully considered by H.M. Government. The High Commissioner in Palestine had recommended that the civil administration of Palestine could not be continued longer than 14 days after the arrival of the United Nations Commission, whilst the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East had strongly advised that the armed forces could not remain in Palestine once the civil administration had been withdrawn. It seemed to him, therefore, that there was no case to be made for accelerating the arrival of the United Nations Commission unless our own evacuation was also accelerated. Under the present programme of evacuation a considerable quantity of military stores would be lost and if the programme was accelerated the quantity of stores that would be lost would be greatly increased.

SIR JOHN EDELSTEN said that the decision to resist the arrival of the United Nations Commission before 1st May, was taken on the grounds that the establishment of dual civil authority was a constitutional impossibility and moreover that it would be necessary for Mandatory control to continue until our military withdrawal was well advanced. Dr. Evatt's recommendation that the arrival of the United Nations Commission should be accelerated could not be accepted unless these assumptions were dismissed. He circulated a draft minute to the Minister of Defence on these lines.

SIR WILLIAM DICKSON said that it seemed inevitable that the arrival of the United Nations Commission would accelerate and intensify the hostility of the Arabs. It seemed likely that the United Nations Commission could only operate in Jewish territory and to accelerate its arrival would increase the risk of our having to afford it protection against the Arabs. Dr. Evatt did not seem to have taken into account the importance to the Commonwealth of continuing good relations with the Arabs, and we could not afford to accept any avoidable risks such as this proposal entailed. He suggested that this point should be inserted at the end of paragraph 3(b) of the draft minute circulated by the Vice Chief of Naval Staff.

THE COMMITTEE:-

Invited General Hollis to submit the draft minute circulated by the Vice Chief of Naval Staff, as amended, to the Minister of Defence.*

- + COS. 1531/19/12/7
- * Annex III to follow.

*of Sir G. ...
of Sir G. ...
of Sir G. ...*

Ministry of Defence, S.W.1.

23rd December, 1947.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

The circulation of this paper has been strictly limited.

It is issued for the personal use of S/S Foreign Affairs, F.O.

TOP SECRET

Copy No. 68

Not used

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE.

Ref: C.O.S.(47) 161st Meeting Minutes.

It is requested that the enclosed ~~Annexes I and II~~ ^{Annex III}
(Minute ~~10~~ refer) be attached to your ~~copy~~ ^{extract} of the
above Meeting Minutes.

Ministry of Defence, S.W.1.

29th December, 1947.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

ANNEX III.

Copy of a minute (reference COS 1548/24/12/7)
dated 24th December, 1947, from General Hollis
to the Minister of Defence.

The Chiefs of Staff Committee have considered Telegram No. 347 from the Acting Prime Minister of Australia.

2. You will recall that the decision of the Defence Committee⁺, to resist any suggestion that the U.N. Commission might arrive before 1st May, 1948, was taken on the agreed advice of the Chiefs of Staff and the Foreign Office and depended on:-

- (a) the constitutional impossibility of dual authority; and
- (b) the necessity for mandatory control of Palestine to continue until our military withdrawal is well advanced.

The policy for the withdrawal is based on the need for conducting the operation in the manner least likely to involve administrative difficulties and not on the legality of the date of surrender of the mandate and arrival of the United Nations Commission.

The latter reason is as valid now as it was when the decision was taken, and the Chiefs of Staff cannot recommend any departure from the approved policy.

3. The Chiefs of Staff recognise that political arguments must be more prominent than strategic considerations in drafting a reply to this telegram, but desire to emphasise two particular points:-

- (a) the policy of refusing our active collaboration in any plan which the Arabs reject is, strategically, of the same critical importance for the rest of the British Commonwealth as it is for the United Kingdom;
- (b) the high probability of armed resistance by the Arabs against the U.N. Commission is a matter for regret, but follows from the nature of the U.N. decision, and is not, of course, affected in any degree (as paragraph 5 of the Australian telegram suggests) by the purely administrative arrangements we have been bound to make to safeguard our withdrawal. The arrival of the Commission, which would almost certainly have to operate in Jewish territory for which we should still be responsible for law and order, would be bound to accelerate and intensify Arab hostilities. This would place us in the precarious position of having

+ D.O.(47)25th Mtg.,Min.1.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

to defend the Commission against the Arabs,
aggravating Arab feeling against us and de-
laying our withdrawal.

4. The Chiefs of Staff think that as all the issues
raised by Mr. Evatt have already been fully considered by
H.M. Government and that no new factors have been raised, a
departure from our existing policy could not be justified.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE				
1	2	3	4	5
1				2
Reference:-				
FO 371 / 68612				
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON				

5 1843	Palentine	Eibr /G 32
	EASTERN	

Eibr 18 ^{31/6} 18
 Cabinet office
 COS (47) 162 ^{10/19}
 Min 5
 Dated 23 Dec.

Palentine: Plans for
withdrawal

Last Paper
 E 160

347 (Minutes) 103 hrs. 8

References
 E 159/8/5

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)
 25/11

(Index)
 W.H.

Next Paper

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			2
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

35
OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES
75872/159/47

INDEXED

En Clair

E 205

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham) JAN

Sent 2nd January, 1948. 12.15 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 14

Report in today's Times from Jerusalem dated January 1st reads: "The Government here now considers it in the best general interests that the Mandate should end sooner than May 15th, provided that the United Nations Commission agree, and it is possible that the date may be advanced by about 6 weeks." Report goes on to suggest that Fletcher-Cooke will ask Commission for 2 months notice of date of arrival in Palestine, presumably mid-March. Overlap period would still be 2 weeks.

2. Grateful for most immediate report on above. Provisional line of comment being taken here is that while it has always been recognised that an earlier date than May 15th might be desirable, if found possible, it is not the case that any decision has been taken to shorten period of civil government.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office Mr. H. Beale
(News Dept.) Mr. Holloway

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E

37

E 210

E JAN

1948

PALESTINE

Registry Number E210/8/31
 FROM C.R.O.
 No. [unclear]
 Dated [unclear]
 Received in Registry [unclear]

Withdrawal from Palestine.
 copy of letter from P.P. Hannon 24/12/47
 copied back to 24/12. Enclosing copy of
 letter from [unclear] House on 11/11/45
 attached. Copy with [unclear] and [unclear]
 withdrawal from Palestine.

Last Paper.

205

(Minutes.)

References.

In P.P. Hannon, C.R.O. to R.A.D. Ford, Canada House 5/1
 The point made by the Canadians
 is a reasonable one. Our
 policy is correctly stated in
 C.R.O. Tel. No. 965 but when
 we say that we shall
 continue to be administratively
 responsible for the whole
 country until the Mandate
 terminates we do not
 guarantee that we can
 maintain law & order in
 territory evacuated by the
 army in all circumstances

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

[Signature]

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

213

A-10

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2			

Reference:-
FO
 371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
 REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
 OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
 RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

C. L. Dept. ^{Min 9/1}

Jonathan
Jan 7

It is extraordinary that Mr. Pearson's mind should still be so confused on these questions. We do not intend to hand over any authority to "local agencies". It is perfectly possible (or would be in normal conditions) for a British administration to continue in parts of Palestine without the backing of locally stationed troops. Indeed this has always happened, as it has in most other countries.

H.B. 7/11

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

circumstances be responsible for the transfer of authority directly from U.K. officials to local agencies".

I should be grateful if you would confirm to me that the verbal impression you gave me yesterday on British policy is correct.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) R.A.D. Ford.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

PALESTINE.

1. Mr. R.A.D. Ford, of Canada House, spoke to me on 22nd December about an enquiry from Ottawa, arising out of C.R.O. telegram E. No. 964, which elucidated C.R.O. telegram E. No. 965. The enquiry originated on a personal basis from Mr. L.B. Pearson, the Canadian who was chairman of Sub-Committee One of the Ad Hoc committee on Palestine at the U.N. Assembly.
2. I said that the intention, of telegram E. No. 965 was to make clear that, even when British troops were withdrawn the civil administration would remain until the termination of the mandate; telegram E. No. 965 might have been taken to mean that the civil administration would be withdrawn with the troops. My understanding was that, when the troops were withdrawn, the civil administration would presumably continue to rely upon a police force for the maintenance of order, although this might be organized in a special way to suit the special circumstances. But the civil administration would remain responsible for the maintenance of order and there was no question of transferring responsibility to "local agencies" before the mandate was laid down. When the mandate was laid down, responsibility would be transferred to the U.N. Commission, who would take such decisions as they saw fit.

SWB
24/12/47.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

This is an unparaphrased version of a Secret cypher (typex) message and the text must first be paraphrased if it essential to communicate it to persons outside British and U.S. Government Services.

41

COPY. OUTWARD TEL. FROM COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE.

CYPHER (TYPEX)

R.D.

TO: CANADA (GOVT.)
AUSTRALIA "
NEW ZEALAND "
SOUTH AFRICA "
INDIA "
PAKISTAN "

(1 - 4) (Sent 9.30 p.m. 10th Dec. 1947)
(5 & 6) (Sent 9.55 p.m. 10th Dec. 1947)

D. No. 965 SECRET
India No. 14575 SECRET
Pakistan No. 14576 SECRET

(to 1 - 4) My tel. 7th Dec. D. No. 955.
(to 5) My tel. 7th Dec. India No. 14539.
(to 6) My tel. 7th Dec. Pakistan No. 14540.

PALESTINE

His Majesty's Representatives in Arab States have been instructed to make it clear to Governments to which they are accredited that statement that general trend of British withdrawal in Palestine will be from south to north refers only to military withdrawal (my tel. under ref. paras. 5 and 7). Until end of mandate Palestine Govt. will remain administratively responsible throughout Palestine, irrespective of whether or not military forces have been withdrawn from any particular area.

Copy to: Foreign Office Mr. I.A. Kirkpatrick
Mr. J.P.G. Finch (4)
Colonial Office Mr. B.A.B. Burrows
Mr. Trafford Smith

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

With Mr. Shannon's Compliments.

5th January, 1948.

P.W.

43

F.2781/83.

SECRET.

Dear Robert,

PALESTINE.

With reference to your letter of 23rd December, 1947, about the Secretary of State's telegram D.No.965 of 10th December, I am glad to confirm what I said to you on 22nd December.

Although the military withdrawal from Palestine will begin before the end of the mandate, and in fact has already begun, the withdrawal of troops from any given area does not mean that the civil government in that area will relinquish the administration before the time for handing over to the United Nations Commission. The civil administration will continue to function and will rely, as heretofore, on the police force to maintain order. The responsibility for the maintenance of law and order has always rested with the civil government, supported by the civil police force, although it is open to the civil power to call in the military when circumstances require. There is no question of transferring responsibility to "local agencies", before the mandate is laid down, in areas from which troops have been withdrawn. When the mandate is laid

down

R.A.D. FORD, ESQ.
CANADA HOUSE.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

SECRET.

Office of the High Commissioner
for Canada,
Canada House, London, S.W.1.

44

December 23rd, 1947.

Dear Godfrey,

With reference to our conversation yesterday, I write to give you the gist of the enquiry from Ottawa concerning the intention of the United Kingdom authorities about the military withdrawal from Palestine. The relevant extract reads as follows:

"You will notice in CRO telegram D.965 that the United Kingdom authorities have indicated that they will withdraw their military authorities from certain areas in Palestine before they have withdrawn their civil administration. The impression we got in New York was that their intention was precisely the opposite, and that although they might in some cases withdraw the civil government in advance of military authorities, they would not reverse the process and leave their civilian authorities in charge in areas from which the military has been evacuated.

"It would appear from tel. D.965 that there will be areas from which the U.K. military authorities have been withdrawn and in which no alternative forces exist except such local ones as the U.K. itself may organize and leave in charge. This will mean, I should think, that effective power will have been assumed, in advance of the arrival of the United Nations Commission, by these local agencies which are permitted by the British to take over responsibility for the maintenance of order after the withdrawal of the British Army. In New York however the U.K. delegation made repeated assertions that the U.K. would not in any circumstances be responsible for the transfer of authority directly from U.K. officials to local agencies."

I should be grateful if you would confirm to me that the

verbal

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	

Reference:-
FO

371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

11

E

E 213

45

1948

PALESTINE

6 JAN

Registry Number E213/8/31

FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

E213/8/31

80
bound

6 Jan

Withdrawal of Civil Administration
CO tel 3430 of 30/12. Reuter message from Jerusalem states "temporary absence" suggesting that withdrawal of Civil Administration from Palestine - due to be completed on 31/12 may be delayed as a result of intensification of communal fighting.
Re: information.

Last Paper.

210

References.

J.A.P. P. P. 2530 10/12
- - - 2536 21/12

Mr. Reiss
Jamb

H.B. 4/11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

J.C. 6/1

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper.

E 256

E 257

29470 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

INWARD TELEGRAM

47 p.w
E

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

E / 14

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 30th December, 1947.
R. 30th " " 20.50 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 2530 Secret.

Your telegram No. 3430.

Your assumption is correct.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

" " (News Dept.) - Mr. Fellowes.
War Office (M.O.4.) - Lt. Col. M. M. Charteris.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				

Reference:-
FO

371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E

49

1948

PALESTINE

E 284

7 JAN

Registry Number E 284/S/31

FROM

S Gutch

No.

Colonel Officer

Dated

5 Jan

Received in Registry

75072/119/4/47

5 Jan

7

evacuation of military stores.

Copy of letter to HQ. Meeting 11/10/47 of 5 Jan. concerning draft directive to officers to be evacuated of personal evacuation of military stores more point. but whilst what happens after termination of mandate is no concern of HQ. see serious objections to the supply to neighbouring Arab States of warlike stores and equipment which might be used in operations against the Jews.

Last Paper.

E 256

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

This is on the same lines as our caveat (E 12365/G)

Mr Buckley 18.15/1

JB Jan 12

(Action completed.)

1/1/48

(Init.)

1/1/48

Next Paper.

E 285

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
2					
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

J. G. S. Beith, Esq.,
Foreign Office

Enter 50
E

No. 75872/159/4/47.
With the compliments of Mr J. Gault
Date 5th January 1948

E 284
7 JAN

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				

Reference:-
FO
371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

51

The Church House,
Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

75872/159/W/47.

5th January, 1948.

Dear Newling

Would you refer to the revised draft directive to the officers to be appointed to exercise general supervision over the arrangements for removal and disposal of Services' stores from Palestine? There is one point which we should like to put on record and that is that whilst what happens after the termination of the Mandate will of course not be the affair of the Colonial Office, at the present stage we see serious objections to the supply to neighbouring Arab States of warlike stores and equipment which might be used in operation against the Jews in Palestine. We assume that this aspect of the matter will be borne in mind in considering any recommendations from the Special Officer and in the issue of any instructions by the Ministry of Defence. I assume that we shall be receiving copies of the directive in its final form; we shall wish to send a copy to the High Commissioner for Palestine.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Beith at the Foreign Office.

Yours sincerely

Sgd. (J. Gutch)

A.J. NEWLING, ESQ., CBE, MVO, TD.
Ministry of Defence.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

14

E

E 285

52

1948

PALESTINE

7 JAN

Registry Number E285/8/31

FROM

E.O.

No.

Comm d.

Dated

Received in Registry

7 Jan

Minutal Policy of 11.11.47.

Pistat tel no 5 of Jan 2. Local Press
carries article from London by George Lichstein
regarding differences between 40 and 41 regarding
that 40 is "coupling" a bit neutrality with
postponement of evacuation and even non-acceptance
of the terms of the Mandate's obligation.

Last Paper.

E284

(Minutes.)

Y.N.P. 80. of No 29 3/1.

References.

H73. 12/1

Y.N.P. amended Pistat of No 5.

H73. 15/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

J.E.H. 14/1

(Index)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

E349

26513 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 2nd January, 1948.
R. 2nd " " 13.05 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 5 Secret

Local press carries an article from London by George Lichtheim suggesting differences between the Foreign Office and the (?Colonial Office) and suggesting that the former are "coupling strict neutrality with postponement of evacuation and even reconsideration of the terms of the Ma date's abrogation". Article goes on to suggest that policy of His Majesty's Government will be not (repeat not) actively to assist United Nations but rather to postpone evacuation and retain the Mandate for some further period and try to gain Arab and Jewish support for some fresh political settlement.

2. The line I shall take with regard to the inevitable local enquiries is that I have nothing to add to the various statements already made on the subject by His Majesty's Government. If, however, any change of existing policy is in fact contemplated, I shall be grateful if I may be informed.

+ Corrupt group - correction being obtained.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office

-- Mr. H. Beeley

54
E

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

55 E
Entire

75872/159/47

Cypher (O.T.P.)

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 3rd January, 1948. 22.00 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 29 Secret.

Your telegram No. 5.

Lichtheim Article.

I approve line you propose to take. There is no truth in any suggestion that Foreign Office favour extension of period of Mandate.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

(12)

Dy
M

(Act
comp

P.P.

15

E

56

1948

PALESTINE

E 349

8 JAN

Registry Number E349/8/31

FROM E.P. Donaldson

No. C.R.O.

Dated 5025/48

Received in Registry 6 Jan

8 -

Palistin; H.M.G. Withdrawal Policy

Refer Cropperd letter to RR Bureau of Jan 2 (E12281/957/31) referring to feat of Radio lit 10170 of 21 Dec. Now avail material from War Office to answer Para 4. Inaguhill transmit text of prepared reply to Para 2.

Last Paper..

(12281/957/31 47)

~~347~~ 285

(Minutes.)

Oral reply submitted

Pro Quirt
Jan 8

to Jan 12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Off. M. Donaldson

C.R.O.

from M. Harrowd.

✓ Jan. 12

(Action completed.)

PEH 12/1

(Index.)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

E357

26513 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			2
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

3491
Commonwealth Relations Office,
Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

3 JAN

Ext.5025/48

6th January, 1948.

Dear Burrows,

You will have seen a copy of Trafford Smith's letter to Curson of 2nd January suggesting a reply to paragraph 3 of the Government of India's telegram about our withdrawal from Palestine. (No 10170 of 21 Dec)

We will now await material from the ^{War} Foreign Office to enable us to answer paragraph 4 of the telegram, but think that we should send some reply to paragraph 2.

If you agree, perhaps this might be to the effect that we should be grateful if the Government of India could instruct its representative at the United Nations to co-operate with Sir A. Cadogan in working out the plans of the United Nations Commission, and urge that they should not arrive in Palestine before we are ready to hand over.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Trafford Smith at the Colonial Office and Charteris at the War Office.

B.A.B. Burrows, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

Toussaint
J. Donahue

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Registry
No. E.349/8/51.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

J.G.S.B.

Draft.
Mr. Donaldson,
Commonwealth
Relations Office.

From: Mr. Burrows.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

*Royal
UN (Pol.) Dept.
C.L. Dept.
fruit
B.S. Bevil
hand*

RECEIVED IN SECTION.	
10 JAN 1948	
RECEIVED	10/1
RECEIVED	12/1

10 am
12/12
58
8th January, 1948.

Dear Donaldson,

Please refer to your letter of January 6th asking for our views on the reply to be returned to paragraph 2 of the Government of India's telegram No. 10710 of December 21st. about Palestine.

We agree *generally* with the line suggested in the penultimate paragraph of your letter, except that there is not likely to be much *opportunity* for co-operation between the Indian representative at the United Nations and Sir A. Cadogan in working out the plan of the U.N. Commission, as India is not a member of the Commission nor a member of the Security Council. Nevertheless anything the Indian representative may be able to do in explaining the United Kingdom point of view after consultation with Sir A. Cadogan will be valuable. Our main object is to complete the withdrawal of our troops and administration as rapidly and smoothly as possible, and at the same time to avoid any friction with the United Nations Commission or the United Nations as a whole.

H.B. 9/11
Yours sincerely

(Sept.) B. A. B. Burrows.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

59

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

18th January, 1948.

(E 349/8/31)

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Donaldson,

Please refer to your letter of the 6th January asking for our views on the reply to be returned to paragraph 2 of the Government of India's telegram No. 10710 of the 21st December about Palestine.

We agree generally with the line suggested in the penultimate paragraph of your letter except that there is not likely to be much opportunity for co-operation between the Indian representative at the United Nations and Sir Alexander Cadogan in working out the plan of the United Nations Commission, as India is not a member of the Commission nor a member of the Security Council. Nevertheless anything the Indian representative may be able to do in explaining the United Kingdom point of view after consultation with Sir Alexander Cadogan will be valuable. Our main object is to complete the withdrawal of our troops and administration as rapidly and smoothly as possible, and at the same time to avoid any friction with the United Nations Commission or the United Nations as a whole.

Yours sincerely

(Sgd.) (B.A.B. Burrows)

E.P. Donaldson, Esq., C.M.G.,
Commonwealth Relations Office.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group..... ~~371~~ F.O.

Class 371

Piece 68612

Following document(s)*

~~retained in the Department of origin*~~

transferred to PRO Safe Room*

E. 357 / 8/31
E. 399 / 4
E. 401 / 4
E. 481 / "
E. 536 / "
E. 537 / 4

and closed until..... 1999

*delete as necessary

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

1548 9	Palestine	E400 /G 60 9 JAN 1948
	EASTERN	

E400 / 8/31/G

C.O.

Dated 5 Jan

Proposal to withdraw the
Civil Administration from
Palestine & terminate
Mandate before 15 May
Tel to Palestine 44.

Last Paper
E399

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes)

H.B. 107

(Action completed)	(Index)
J.F.H.	W.F.H.

Next Paper

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

4061

E400

enter

Cypher (O.T.P.)

TO PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)
FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 5th January, 1948. 21.30 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 44 Top Secret and Personal.

I have now had an opportunity of seeing Fletcher Cooke and hearing from him the line you would be likely to take if asked to give your reaction to a proposal to withdraw the Civil Administration and terminate the Mandate at an earlier date than 15th May. In view of the recent developments, Ministers here have been feeling increasingly that it would be difficult for effective administration to be maintained for so long a period in the worsening security situation. As judged from here the Government are becoming increasingly unable to discharge their responsibilities for law and order throughout the country.

My understanding has been that your advocacy of continued Civil Administration for the full period up to 15th May derived largely from the desirability of which we have all been aware for the maximum possible assistance to be given by the Civil Administration to the Military in their evacuation of personnel and stores, and also to provide a reasonable period of time during which the United Nations Commission might make its arrangements for an orderly assumption of authority after due preparation.

It is now becoming clear that circumstances are unlikely to permit the implementation of this programme, based as it was on the assumption that the Arabs would produce no strong reaction until the United Nations Commission had arrived.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

arrived, and that the security situation would thus be manageable until then. However long the United Nations Commission have to prepare there can now be very little prospect of an orderly hand-over of the administrative machine to them, and therefore the argument on that ground for maintaining the Mandatory Administration as long as possible now ceases to be valid. As regards the argument that continuation of Civil Administration until 15th May is essential to the Military programme, I should be glad to know whether in view of the changed security situation opinion in Palestine has in any way shifted on this issue.

A meeting of the Official Committee on Palestine on Wednesday afternoon is likely to consider whether H.M.G. should not now revise its policy with a view to withdrawal of the Civil Government and termination of the Mandate on 1st April, notwithstanding the very serious difficulties such a decision would cause to the Service Departments and Ministry of Transport, especially from the point of view of redeployment and shipping. For the purposes of this meeting, I should be most grateful if you could let me have an appreciation of the present position with above factors in mind in consultation with the Military as far as possible.

Distributed to: -/

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

62

Distributed to:-

R.243
Secretary of State
Sir T. Lloyd
Mr. Rees-Williams
Sir S. Caine
Sir C. Jeffries
Mr. Holding
Mr. Martin
Mr. Trafford Smith
Mr. Gatch
Mr. Matheson
Mr. Higham
Mr. Galsworthy
Mr. Holmer
Mr. Dale
Cabinet Offices
" "
" "
Ministry of Defence
Treasury
" "
Admiralty
" "
" "
War Office
" " (M.O.4.)
Ministry of Transport
" " "
Air Ministry
" "
Foreign Office
" "
" "
" "

- Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
- Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
- Commander Evershed, R.N.
- Mr. A.J. Newling.
- Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
- Mr. W. Russell-Edwards.
- Mr. P.N.N. Synnott.
- Capt. Maunsell.
- Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson.
- Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
- Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton.
- Brig. L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
- Lt. Col. Charteris.
- Mr. B.F. Picknett.
- Mr. F.C. Rennie.
- Air Commodore Brook.
- Group Capt. V.H.B. Roth.
- Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.
- Mr. H. Beeley.
- Mr. J.G.S. Beith.
- Mr. J.C. Robertson.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

1948	Palestine	E402/G 63
	EASTERN	

"
E402 18/31/48
C.O. commd.
dated 6 Jan

Palestine: Termination of
mandate
Palestine 36

Last Paper
E402/1

2PP

(Minutes)

7.13.17

References
E400/8/9

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)
2F 12/11

(Index)
W.H.

Next Paper

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	
Reference:-					
FO 371/68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E
INWARD TELEGRAM

39 64
enter

EH09

Cypher (O.T.)

9 JAN 1948

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 6th January, 1948.

R. 6th " " 22.55 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 36 Top Secret and Personal.

Your telegram No. 44.

Your telegram accurately sets out our reasons for agreeing to adoption of withdrawal plan entailing termination of mandate on 15th May.

2. In so far as present security situation is concerned it seems most unlikely that it will improve, although it cannot yet be said that it will definitely get worse during time we are still in the country. I feel bound to say however that if Jews continue in their policy of blowing up innocent Arabs, now sponsored by Hagana, it seems probable that position will worsen. I cannot say in this case that we will not be able to extricate ourselves, although it will become increasingly difficult. Civil Government is clearly in a most anomalous position and cannot be said to be wholly effective. Therefore if position of Administration was the only factor to be considered then I would say that the sooner it closed the better.

3. There are however questions of U.N.O. Commission, and military withdrawal and position of Jerusalem. On matter of the Commission it is not quite accurate to say that we cannot hand over to it, although it is certain now that having taken over they will not be able to carry out effective central administration. I have of course no information as to the objective of their plans.

Up./

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371/68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Up to the present it seems that pressure is being put on them to come out to Palestine almost at once. It is possible however that once they have become (?seized) with their problem they will realize that they have all too soon little time before 1st May to prepare themselves. If they were to ask us to stay until 15th May a refusal would be awkward for us.

4. Concerning military withdrawal, the General Officer Commanding tells me that he could be in a position to go straight to phase 2 of plan by 1st April with some shipping and I understand that all stores will have been moved by then to Rafa or Haifa. The disadvantages of this plan from Army point of view are that they would be left without central administration at a time when they would be occupying a large area as compared with Haifa enclave, and there would be greater difficulties in disposing of stores and camps. I have not been in a position to discuss this with Commander-in-Chief but I have no doubt that these disadvantages will weigh heavily with him, unless it is found possible also to make the final date of Army withdrawal 6 weeks earlier.

5. In so far as Jerusalem is concerned I feel it cannot be left without protection and that we should not leave until some arrangement has been made by Trusteeship Council for security of the City.

6. Taking all these factors into account, I feel, therefore, that given safety of Jerusalem, if the Commission wish to come out earlier, we should not resist its arrival on or after 15th March on which case the Mandate could terminate on 1st April.

Distributed to:-

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	

Reference:-
FO
371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

64A

INWARD TELEGRAM

Distributed to:-

R.243
 Secretary of State
 Sir T. Lloyd
 Mr. Rees Williams
 Sir S. Caine
 Sir C. Jeffries
 Mr. Holding
 Mr. Martin
 Cabinet Offices

" "
 " "
 Ministry of Defence
 Treasury

" "
 Admiralty

" "
 " "
 War Office

" " (M.C.A.)
 Ministry of Transport

" "
 Air Ministry

" "
 Foreign Office

" "
 M.I.5.

Mr. Trafford Smith
 Mr. Gutch
 Mr. Mathieson
 Mr. Higham
 Mr. Galsworthy
 Mr. Holmer
 Mr. Dale

Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
 Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
 Commander Evershed.
 Mr. A.J. Newling.
 Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
 Mr. W. Russell-Edmonds.
 Mr. P.H.E. Synnott.
 Captain Maunsell.
 Captain D.H. Hall-Thompson.
 Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
 Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton.
 Brig. L.L. Wansborough-Jones.
 Lt. Col. Charteris.
 Mr. B.F. Picknett.
 Mr. W.G. Rennie.
 Air Commodore Brooks.
 Group Captain V.H.B. Roth.
 Mr. B.A.E. Burrows.
 Mr. H. Wesley.
 Mr. J.G.S. Reith.
 Mr. J.C. Robertson.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

E402/8/9

P.W. 66
/ 65

Spare

SECRET

The attached extract from Palestine telegram No. 53 is circulated in substitution of the earlier version, which was given no security classification and should be destroyed.

Colonial Office,
Church House.

22nd January, 1948.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Copies sent to:-

Cabinet Offices - Mr. S.E.V. Luke
" " - Brig. Cornwall-Jones
" " - Lt. Col. Sherman
Ministry of Defence (J.I.S.) - Mr. A.S. Newling
" " - Major Gobbett
Treasury - Mr. D.F.C. Blunt
" " - Mr. W. Russell-Edmonds
Admiralty - Mr. D.N.H. Symott
" " - Capt. Maunsell
" " - Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson
War Office - Mr. G.C.B. Dodds
" " - Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton
" " (M.O.4) - Brig. L.L. Wansbrough-Jones
Ministry of Transport - Lt. Col. M.M. Charteris
" " - Mr. B.F. Picknett
Air Ministry - Mr. F.C. Rennie
" " - Air Commodore Brook
Foreign Office - Group Capt. V.H.B. Roth
" " - Mr. B.A.B. Burrows
" " - Mr. H. Bealey
" " - Mr. J.G.S. Beith
M.I.5 - Mr. J.C. Robertson
No. 10 Downing Street - P.S. to Prime Minister
Lord President - Private Secretary
Admiralty - Private Secretary
" " - First Sea Lord
War Office - Private Secretary
" " - C.I.G.S.
Air Ministry - Private Secretary
" " - C.A.S.
Cabinet Offices - Sir H. Brook
Foreign Office - Private Secretary
Ministry of Defence - Private Secretary
" " - Sir H. Wilson Smith
Commonwealth Relations Office - Private Secretary
Foreign Office (Research Dept.) - Air Commodore K.C. Bues
" " - P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent

JAN 1953

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

Regi
Num

FR

No.

Date

Rece
in R

L

R

(H

(Action
complete

J.L.M.

N

5

E

E 496

68

1948

PALESTINE

JAN

Registry Number

E 496/8/31

FROM

No.

P.O. Council

Dated

Received in Registry

18 Jan

Withdrawal of appointment of Officers.
Relative to 29 staff of Jan 8. Ref 10.
til 23 (E 39/8/31) agrees with proposals.
40 staff should arrive about one month
before termination of mandate. Suggest
names of two officers for temporary attachment

Last Paper.

481

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

J. L. M. 10/1

(Index.)

J. L. M. 10/1

Next Paper.

536

(Minutes.)

This will be dealt with on Establishment papers. But there is one point of some political importance in para. 6. In spite of the U.S. lead, we should be careful not to commit ourselves at present to having a guard for the Consulate or Mission in Jerusalem. This might involve us more than we wished and we should postpone a decision on this point.

~~E. O. Dept~~

J. L. M. 10/1
Jan 14

H. Bailey 15/1

W. E.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371/68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

884 3
HAL 21

We need not decide yet but ~~shd~~ ^{we may} ~~shd~~
~~shd~~ ~~shd~~ ~~shd~~
find in the end that we shall want
a guard.

L. Pitt Rivers
15th

I have minuted on X papers.
I think we shall clearly have
to have a guard.

BARB
16.1

PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Reference -									
FO 371 / 68612									
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON									

INWARD TELEGRAM

69

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.B.)

E 496

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 8th January, 1948.

R. 8th " " 14.10 hrs.

17 JAN

No.29 Staff Secret.

Your telegram No.23

I agree with your proposals.

2. Foreign Office staff should arrive about one month before the termination of the Mandate.

3. I recommend temporary attachment to the Minister of J.G.T. Sheringham and J.B. Pruett. Both these officers have applied for this duty and both wish to continue ultimately to serve somewhere in the Middle East. Sheringham was appointed to this Government in 1939. He speaks, reads and writes Arabic and Hebrew fluently; has had experience in district administration and income tax, and is now in the Political Branch of the Secretariat. Pruett was first appointed to this Government in 1946, but he has ten years experience of the Middle East, mostly in the Army during the war. He has taken a course at the Arab Centre, speaks, reads and writes Arabic well, has had some experience in district administration and is now serving in the Political Branch of the Secretariat and as Clerk to the Executive Council. I can thoroughly recommend both these officers to assist the Minister in Jerusalem.

4. I should, however, make it clear that all staff continuing to serve in Palestine after 15th May will be based on Haifa enclave and not in Jerusalem.

5. With regard to accommodation, permanent accommodation in Haifa will be difficult to arrange until the Army's withdrawal has been completed. Temporary accommodation there could however be arranged on the Consul General's arrival. In Jerusalem I suggest that the W.O.C.'s house, which is requisitioned property, and the Chief Secretary's house, which is a hiring furnished by Government, should be taken over. The negotiations of leases for these properties will take some time and I shall therefore be grateful if you will let me know as soon as possible whether the Foreign Office wish to avail themselves of them.

6. The Minister in Jerusalem will require a British guard. The U.S. Consul General is asking his Government for a guard of 110 U.S. Marines, as reported in my secret telegram No.2532 of 31st December, 1947. In Haifa the guard could be assumed by the Army until the military evacuation has been completed.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office Mr. Cable
" Mr. Carver
War Office (M.O.A.) Lt. Col. W.M. Charteris
Cabinet Offices Capt. W. Swenshaw R.N.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

15	Palestine	E538 / G 70
	EASTERN	

E538 18/31/G
 Mr Luke
 Cabinet Office
 to Mr Keeloy
 Dated 12 Nov

Proposal for advancing
 date of termination of
 Palestine mandate

Last Paper
 E537 (E89)

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes)
 dealt with by telephone
 & agreed HB Jan 13

(Action completed)
 25/14/

(Index)
 lyp

Next Paper

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

ES38

Encl

71

12th January, 1948.

Dear Beeley

After consultation with the Chiefs of Staff Secretariat, I have revised Higham's draft letter about the question of bringing forward the date of the termination of the Mandate in Palestine. I think that at this stage it is not advisable to enter into detailed arguments about the reasons why the Colonial Office and Foreign Office consider that the time has come to review the approved evacuation scheme. I presume that, when the Chiefs of Staff consider the letter, representatives of the two Departments are likely to be invited to be present.

.....

I enclose a redraft, and should be grateful if you could let me have your comments on it, by telephone, not later than 6.30 p.m. tonight. I have promised Stapleton that I will let him have the letter by 7 p.m.

I am writing similarly to Martin, Colonial Office.

*Yours sincerely
H. Beeley*

H. Beeley, Esq., C.B.E.,
Foreign Office.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

The two Departments are seriously concerned at the prospect of the continuance of this situation for a further four months, and they asked that the possibility should be examined whether the termination of the Mandate might be brought forward to some earlier date, say 1st April. The Official Committee feel, however, that the Defence Committee could not usefully be asked to consider this question in the absence of an approximate estimate of the cost in stores which such a change of plan would involve. I was therefore asked to ascertain whether the Chiefs of Staff would be prepared to ask the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East, for this information, and for an indication of any other military factors which Ministers ought to take into account at the same time.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference: -					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

1943

Palestine
EASTERN

ES40 /G
1300000

74

E 540 18/31/43
F.O. Min
Mr. Bealey
Jared P. van
R

Palestine: Possibility of
advancing the ~~mandate~~
date of termination of the
mandate

Last Paper.
E538 (E481)

(Minutes.)

References.

743. 151

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)
25/6/43

(Index.)
4/7/43

Next Paper.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
References:-					
FO 371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					



Tel. No. : Whitehall 7000

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
S.W.1

Enter E
77
E : 550 9th January, 1948.

Dear Sargent,

JAN
Major General R.K. Hewer, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., has been appointed by my Minister, as the result of the Cabinet direction that there should be a special appointment for the specific purpose of supervising the collection and evacuation of military stores from Palestine. In the light of discussions with all the Departments concerned, I have sent to Major General Hewer a letter and a general memorandum, of which I enclose copies for your information. I should be grateful if you would take any appropriate action to see that people on the spot are notified of the appointment and of the terms of reference which govern it. Major General Hewer will be in London at the end of next week, and we hope that he will proceed to Palestine by air on Monday, January 19th.

I have sent a letter in similar terms to Speed, Lang, Barnes, Rowlands, Jenkins, and Lloyd.

Yours sincerely,

H Wilson Smith

Sir Orme Sargent,
K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
				2	
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

9th January, 1948.

Dear Major,

I write to confirm our discussions as the result of which it has been agreed between us that you will proceed to Palestine on behalf of the Ministry of Defence. The essential object of your appointment is to give all possible advice and assistance to the Service and other authorities in Palestine in connection with the collection, evacuation and/or disposal of military stores.

For this purpose you should

- (a) examine the policy instructions already issued by the Defence departments to their Commanders in Chief in the Middle East;
- (b) examine the plans already made on the spot under the directions of the Commanders in Chief;
- (c) if not satisfied either with (a) or (b), make representations to the appropriate authorities for their iteration;
- (d) if those representations do not produce a result regarded by you as satisfactory, report the points of disagreement to me for the information of

Major General H.K. Hever,
C.B., C.B.E., M.C.

/the

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	
Reference: -					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

79

-2-

the Minister of Defence and for discussion in London with the appropriate Department or Departments.

(c) examine, in the same way, the plans of other responsible authorities, notably as regards the shipping of those stores to be evacuated by sea and the disposal of those stores to be sold, and then proceed as under (e) and (d);

(f) at all times, provide the maximum assistance to the authorities on the spot regarding the implementation of their plans.

For your general guidance, I attach a memorandum which has been prepared in the Ministry of Defence and circulated, together with a copy of this letter, to the Service Departments, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of Transport, Foreign Office and Colonial Office.

Yours sincerely,

A. Wilson Smith

31

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1					
	2				
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

E
82

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES **INDEXED**

75872/159/4/48

F 550 / 8 / 21

Code

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 13th January, 1948. 09.15 hrs.

No. 124 Confidential.

As a result of recent decision by Ministers, Major General R.K. Hewer, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., has been appointed for the specific purpose of supervising the collection and evacuation of military stores from Palestine. He hopes to fly to Palestine on Monday January 19th. Savingram follows enclosing copies of terms of reference and memorandum supplied to Major General Hewer by Ministry of Defence. Request you will afford him all assistance.

Copies sent to:-

Ministry of Defence	-	Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Supply	"	"
Ministry of Transport	"	"
Foreign Office	"	"
War Office	"	"
Admiralty	"	"
Air Ministry	"	"

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68612

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Registry
No. E 550/8/31.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

JGSB.

we
Draft letter.
NAME PLEASE.
British Middle
East Office.

x bit

20a
20/1
83
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,
16th January, 1948.

Sir,

I transmit to you herewith ^acopy of a
directive which is being given to Major-General
R.K. Hewer, who has been appointed by the
Minister of Defence to supervise the collection
and evacuation of military stores ^{from} in Palestine.

2. It is hoped that Major-General Hewer will
proceed to Palestine by air on Monday, January
19th.

I am,

etc.

12/1

*D.S. Benint
Jan 16*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

RECEIVED IN
DIVISION.
20 JAN 1948
SENT TO TYPE *20/1*
SERIALIZED *23/1*

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
1
2
3
4
5
6
1
2
Reference:-
FO 371 / 68612
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-
OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC
RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

OUT FILE
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

23th January, 1948.

84
END

No.
(E 550/8/31)

Sir,

I transmit to you herewith a copy of a directive which is being given to Major-General R.K. Hewer, who has been appointed by the Minister of Defence to supervise the collection and evacuation of military stores from Palestine.

2. It is hoped that Major-General Hewer will proceed to Palestine by air on Monday, 19th January.

I am, with great truth and regard,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(For Mr. Attlee)

J.M. Troutbeck

J.M. Troutbeck Esq., C.M.G.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Cairo.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO					
371 / 68612					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					